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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/052,711

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Fumio Kobayashi

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FRISHAUF, HOLTZ, GOODMAN & CHICK, PC
220 Fifth Avenue
16TH Floor
NEW YORK, NY 10001-7708

EXAMINER

SHERR, CRISTINA O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3621

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,711

Applicant(s)

KOBAYASHI, FUMIO

Examiner

Cristina Owen Sherr

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to applicant's amendment filed November 30, 2006.
2. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 4 have been amended. Claims 1-4 are currently pending in this case.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed November 9, 2004 fails to comply with http://www.ywcanca.org/pdf/2007_Summer_Camp_Brochure.pdf 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.
4. Applicant is respectfully requested to resubmit the references listed in this IDS as these references are not to be found in the file. The examiner regrets any inconvenience.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed November 30, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
6. With respect to independent claims 1, 2, 3, and 4, as currently amended, applicant argues that nothing in the cited references, teaches or suggests the feature of determining whether or not a memory area is to be assigned to a user. Applicant further

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argues that nothing in the references teaches or suggests newly assigning a domain name to a user. Attention is directed to the following passages:

“ . . . the freedom to select from a wide number of service and content offerings” (par 1).

“ . . . system for managing client accounts and controlling access to resources over data networks which includes a mechanism for sharing client information and charges among a plurality of service providers” (par 17)

“Operators of World Wide Web sites who wish to make money from the sale of information or software, or wish to control access to resources. These are called Clickshare Publishing Members or Clickshare Resource Providers. Examples include: newspapers, magazines, specialty publications, new-media entrepreneurs, game vendors, software publishers, health-care providers, network or other service providers.” (par 36).

7. Assigning a memory area or a domain name to a user is just one more of many services and resources that can be made available in Oliver.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oliver et al (US 2002/0133412) in view of Gupta et al (US 2001/0020242).

10. Regarding claim 1 –

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Oliver discloses a network service applying apparatus comprising an accepting server and memory (e.g. abs), wherein said accepting server: inputs a domain name associated with a memory area accessible via a network (e.g. par 0028); inputs and stores credit information to be used for a user who is to be assigned with said memory area specified by said domain name to receive a credit (e.g. par 0037); sends out said input credit information and acquires examination result data indicating allowance or denial of a credit using said credit information sent out when receiving said examination result data (e.g. par 0072); determines whether or not a memory area to be associated with said input domain name is to be assigned to said user based on said acquired examination result data and, when having decided to assign said memory area to said user, inputs user information for specifying said user, and generates and outputs ID data for identifying said user; stores said user information into said memory (e.g. par 0079).

11. Oliver does not specifically disclose, but Gupta does, when externally receiving said ID data and a notification indicating that a right to receive a network connection service is given to a third party, generates and outputs network connection ID data for identifying said right to be given to said third party by that user who is identified by said ID data, and a password associated with said network connection ID data (e.g. par 0018).

12. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to combine the teachings of Gupta and Oliver for greater security in providing Internet service.

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13. Regarding claim 2 –

Oliver discloses the network service applying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said accepting server further charges a user who is to receive a credit using said stored credit information with a consideration of assignment of said memory area to said user and a consideration of said network connection service a right for whose reception has been given to said third party by said user, by using said credit information (e.g. par 0075).

14. Regarding claim 3-

Oliver discloses the network service applying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said accepting server further sends out said input domain name as one to be newly used and acquires use status report data indicating whether or not said sent domain name has already been used when receiving said use status report data; and determines whether or not said input domain name as one to be newly used has already been used based on said acquired use status report data and stops inputting said credit information when having determined that said domain name has already been used (e.g. par 0100).

15. Regarding claim 4 –

Oliver discloses the network service applying apparatus according to claims 1, further comprising an authentication server, wherein said authentication server: encrypts said password generated by said accepting server and stores said password and said network connection ID data with which said password is associated in association with each other; and when externally supplied with said network connection ID data and a

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password via a telephone line, determines whether or not said encrypted password associated with said network connection ID data substantially matches with said externally supplied password, and grants connection to said network via said telephone line to said third party identified by said network connection ID data when there is a match (e.g. par 0303, 0304).

16. Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may be applied as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

18. Dancs et al (US 6,108,789) disclose a mechanism for use with Internet service provider smart cards to roam among geographically disparate authorized network computer client devices without mediation of a central authority.

19. Sussman (US 6,836,765) discloses a system and method for secure and address verifiable electronic commerce transactions.

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20. Farris et al (US 5,881,131) disclose an analysis and validation system for provisioning network related facilities.

21. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

22. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cristina Owen Sherr whose telephone number is 571-272-6711. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 Monday through Friday.

24. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew J. Fischer can be reached on 571-272-6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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25. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Cristina Owen Sherr
Patent Examiner, AU 3621



ANDREW J. FISCHER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600